GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6285
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002
CELLULAR SERVICES
ALE NARENDRA;DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cellular cell phone companies providing cell phone facility in each State at present;

(b) the present tariff being charged for the said facility;

(c) the revenue received by the Government therefrom during each of the last two years and till date;

(d) whether the cellular services have been slowly concentrating in the hands of few companies;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to prevent the development of emerging monopolies of such companies ever this sector; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) Licences for providing Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) have been granted for various service areas in the country, divided into 4 Metro City Service Areas and 20 Telecom Circle Service Areas. The Licences have not been granted State- wise, however, most of the Telecom Circles are contiguous with the state boundaries. The names of the companies who have been granted the licences and status of provision of service is given in Annexure - I.

(b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is responsible for fixing of tariffs for Telecom Services including CMTS. As per the information provided by TRAI, the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999, TRAI has specified tariff for CMTS for the standard tariff package. This standard tariff package must always be offered to the subscribers and in addition, cellular service providers may offer alternative packages also. At present, the mandatory tariff package offered by cellular service providers in Metros includes a monthly rental of Rs.475/- and air-time charge of Rs.4/- per minute. In Telecom Circles the corresponding package is Rs.500/- for monthly rental and Rs.4.50/- for air-time. In many Telecom Service Areas the tariffs offered by Cellular Service Providers are lower. The Cellular Service Providers offer a number of alternative tariff packages with distinct features, in addition to the mandatory standard package, subject to the approval of the TRAI. As in January, 2002 there were approximately 740 tariff plans in existence across the country with different combinations of rental and air-time charges. Subscribers are at liberty to choose the standard package or any of the alternative tariff packages.

(c) The details of revenue received by the Government towards License fees and wireless spectrum charges is given in Annexure-II

(d) to (g): The scheme for award of licences for CMTS envisages multiple operators in each service area. Presently, there are 80 licences owned by 26 companies including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited/ Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited for 24 Service Areas as per list given in Annexure-I. In most of the Telecom Service Areas 4 licences have been granted for providing CMTS. As per the terms and conditions of the CMTS Licence Agreement, no single company/legal person, shall have 10% or more holding in more than one licensee company in the same Service Area. A promoter company can not have stakes in more than one licensee company for the same Service Area. This will ensure that monopoly is not created in any service area.

ANNEXURE-I

Status of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in Telecom Circles and Metro Cities

S NO.	Service Area (Metro City/ Telecom Circle)	No. of Licenses	Name of Licensee Company	Service Started Yes / No

1.	DELHI	4	Bharti Cellular Ltd.	Yes
			Sterling Cellular Ltd.	Yes
			Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	Yes
			Birla Tata AT & T Ltd.	No
2.	MUMBAI	4	BPL Mobile Communication Ltd.	Yes
			Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd.	Yes
			Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	Yes
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No
3.	KOLKATA	4	Bharti Mobitel Ltd.	Yes
			Usha Martin Telekom Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Yes
			Reliable Internet Services Ltd.	No
4.	CHENNAI	4	RPG Cellular Services Ltd.	Yes
			Bharti Mobinet Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
			Barakhmba Sales & Services Ltd.	No
5	Andhra Pradesh	4	Birla Tata AT & T Ltd.	Yes
			Bharti Mobile Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
			Barakhmba Sales & Services Ltd.	No
6	Assam	2	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
7	Bihar	2	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Yes
8	Gujarat	4	Fascel Ltd.	Yes
			Birla Tata AT& T Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No
9.	Haryana	4	Escotel Mobile Communication (P) Ltd.	Yes
			Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4	Bharti Telenet Ltd.	Yes
			Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
			Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	No
11	Karnataka	4	Spice Communications Ltd.	Yes
			Bharti Mobile Limited	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No
			Barakhmba Sales & Services Ltd.	No
12	Kerala	4	BPL Cellular Limited	Yes
			Escotel Mobile Communications Ltd.	Yes
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No

			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No	
13	Maharashtra	4	BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd.	Yes	
			Birla Tata AT& T Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No	
14	Madhya Pradesh	4	RPG Cellcom Ltd.	Yes	
			Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No	
15	North East	3	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes	
			Hexacom India Ltd.	No	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
16	Orissa	2	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
17	Punjab	4	Spice Communications Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharti Mobile Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	No	
18	Rajasthan	4	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	Yes	
			Hexacom India Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	No	
19	Tamilnadu	4	BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd.	Yes	
			Aircel Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No	
20	Uttar Pradesh (West)	3	Escotel Mobile Communications Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Bharti Cellular Ltd.	No	
21	Uttar Pradesh (East)	4	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	Yes	
			Koshika Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
			Escorts Telecommunications Ltd.	No	
22	West Bengal	2	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	Yes	
			Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
23	Andman & Nicobar	1	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	
24	Jammu & Kashmir	1	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	No	

ANNEXURE-II

REVENUECOLLECTED BY DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS FROM TS OPERATORS TOWARDS LICENC FEES AND WIRELESS SPECTRUM CHARGES .

(IN CRORES OF RUPEES APPROXIMATELY)

S. No.	Year	Entry Fee	Fixed Licence	Licence fee as	Wireless Spectrum	Total

		Fee	Revenue Share	Charges		
1	2000-01	-	-	511.68	73.42	585.10
2	2001-02	1633.57	-	525.04	232.63	2391.24
3	1.04.2002 To 30.4.2002	-	-	44.19	53.86	98.05
4	1999-2000			290.86		290.86
5	Since beginning in 1994-95 till 30.4.02	-	6794.30	-		6794.30
6	Since beginning in 1994-95 till 2000				89.06	89.06
Grand Total					10248.61	

Note : In respect of fixed licence fee and revenue share, the above figures include interest wherein payments have been received after the due dates.